

News from the Illinois Commerce Commission

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ICC approves highway-railroad improvements near Fairmount

The Illinois Commerce Commission has approved plans for a rail improvement project involving the installation of automatic flashing light signals and gates at the 400E (TR 54) highway-rail grade crossing of the Norfolk Southern Railway Company's track near Fairmount, in Vance Township Road District, Vermilion County.

The project also requires Vance Township to improve the highway approach grades to meet the minimum requirements of 92 IL. Adm. Code 1535.

The cost to install new automatic flashing light signals and gates is estimated at \$169,000. The Grade Crossing Protection Fund (GCPF) will pay 95 percent of this cost. The Norfolk Southern Railway Company will pay the remaining installation costs, as well as all future operating and maintenance costs.

The cost to reconstruct the highway approaches is estimated to be \$49,110. The GCPF will pay 50 percent of this cost, not to exceed \$24,555. The Township will pay all remaining roadway approach grade construction costs, as well as all future maintenance costs.

The total amount of GCPF assistance for this project is estimated to be \$185,105.

The project must be completed by July 26, 2007.

ABOUT THE GRADE CROSSING PROTECTION FUND (GCPF)

Project selection and management of GCPF highway-rail safety projects include safety improvements such as the installation of new warning systems, highway approach improvements and the construction/reconstruction of grade separation structures. The Commission administers the GCPF, which is funded by motor fuel tax money designated for rail safety improvements.

The General Assembly appropriates \$27 million annually for GCPF projects.

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